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HL 7

25.11.2005 Intermediate landing of the Prescott Support's aircraft in Helsinki 16.5.2003

A cargo aircraft L-382 (modified C-130 HERCULES) owned by an American company Prescott Support stopped on 16th May 2003 at the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport on its way from Frankfurt to Stockholm. The dossiers concerning that flight have been found in the Defence Staff through a manual search.

The Civil Aviation Administration received on 24th April 2003 a license application from the operator for an intermediate landing in Helsinki. It was explained in the application that the plane was delivering freight and that it has a crew of ten, without other passengers. Based on the information in the applicant's request that the plane had cargo meant for the US embassies, the Civil Aviation Administration considered it in accordance with the Finnish law to be a state aircraft because of which license was to be approved by the Defence Staff. The application was forwarded on 30th April to the Defence Staff that sent an affirmative answer back to the Civil Aviation Administration on 6th May 2003. The Civil Aviation Administration then informed the Prescott Support that their application was approved.

The plane landed at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport on 16th May 2003 around 4.30 PM Finnish time.

It is not known how long the plane stayed on ground but the license had been applied for a stay of 90 minutes. It is also not known if the plane was refuelled or any cargo unloaded.

No information available indicates that the plane in question would have been used for the transport of prisoners.

Further information: Director for Public Policy Jyrki Iivonen, Tel. +358 9 1608 8200, Mobile +358 50 568 0553.